GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETINS

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(The National Geographic Society is a scientific and educational Society, wholly altruistic, incorporated under the Federal law as a non-commercial institution for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion.)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

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GERMAN PEASANT COSTUMES WHICH GOETHE KNEW

Were the great German poet to return to his native land to-day he would recognize only a few landmarks, and the people to be seen at fairs, such as this group in Halle, near Weimar. The older generation, which knows how to make the colorful dresses, suits and hats of another age, is passing away, and the younger generation in Germany is interested only in modern styles (See Bulletin No. 1).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

The Geographic News Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers for one year upon receipt of 25 cents (in stamps or money order). Entered as second-class matter, January 27, 1922, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized February 9, 1922.

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Frankfurt and Weimar To Mark Goethe Centennial

TWO German cities will share honors in commemorating the hundredth anniversary of the death of Goethe, greatest of German poets, March 22. On that date Frankfurt, birthplace of the writer, and Weimar, where he did his best work, will lead an international tribute in which several nations, including the United States, plan to take part.

Frankfurt-on-the-Main, a great industrial and railroad center, and Weimar, a dreamy medieval town, are as unlike as any two cities in Germany, but each is colorful and interesting in its own way.

"Goethe and Weimar" Linked in German Mind

Because Goethe produced so many of his classics in Weimar, however, the association of the poet's name with the town is almost as familiar as that of Mark Twain with Hannibal, Missouri, or of Shakespeare with Stratford-on-Avon.

Weimar is situated in the very heart of Germany, a few miles southwest of Leipzig. It is still the scenic jewel that Goethe extolled in many of his poems. It plays a part in modern life as the capital of the Thuringian Free State, one of the important commonwealths of the German Republic.

The winding streets and overhanging buildings of the old town have a ring of new suburbs, but the wooded parks, the pleasant, winding river Ilm, and the overshadowing, forest-clad hills are unchanged since "the august Jupiter of literature," as Goethe has been called, made Weimar famous as an eighteenth century cultural and intellectual center.

Other Noted Residents

Goethe's is not the only famous name associated with Weimar. Here, too, lived his friend Schiller, the poet of the people, and also Liszt, the composer, and Nietzsche, the philosopher. Museums, statues, houses, streets and shops keep green the memory of its immortals.

Weimar has somewhat the atmosphere of a literary resort, and it has capitalized its famous sons. Many priceless relics of the past have been preserved, and the scholar and pilgrim may see thousands of original manuscripts; the Garten-Haus of Goethe; the Nietzsche house; the *Archiv*, with its superb collection of letters, drawings, books, etc.; the Schloss, or Castle, of the grand dukes of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach, erected partly under Goethe's superintendence; the hunting lodge on Kickelhahn; the inn at Ilmenan; and the Belvedere chateau, with its open-air theater.

Center of attraction during the Goethe Centennial, however, will be the Goethe House on the Frauenplan, soon to be enlarged by an addition to take care of the rich collection of Goetheana kept in closets and boxes. Here the poet lived from 1782 until his death, March 22, 1832. Goethe and Schiller are buried in the Fürstengruft, or "Princes' Vault," beside the former reigning line of Thuringia.

Birthplace of Poet

Frankfurt, with its half million population, the metropolis of south-central Germany, has not been too busy to mark Goethe's birthplace on Grosser Hirschgraben. Adjoining the birthplace, which has been carefully restored, is a Goethe Museum and Library, containing many reminiscences of the city's most noted son.

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FEW AMERICAN GARDENS HAVE ANYTHING FINER THAN THE BOXWOOD AT GUNSTON HALL

This view, taken from the front of the historic home of George Mason, author of the Bill of Rights, shows the classic plan of the gardens, and a distant view of the blue, winding Potomac River. The boxwood, bordering the walk down to the pergola, is valued at several thousands of dollars and is among the finest in America. Like cedar trees (at the right) boxwood is evergreen. Gunston Hall has been given to Virginia by its owner, to become a State monument after the owner's death (See Bulletin No. 5).

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Cartagena, Walled City of the Spanish Main

AN AMERICAN engineering firm will build a new harbor for Cartagena, romantic walled city of the Spanish Main, and Colombia's third most important seaport. The works include a 1,000-foot pier, warehouses, and dredging the roadstead and entrance to the canal connecting the city with the Magdalena River.

The city itself lies on a peninsula jutting into the Caribbean Sea, and is joined with the mainland by a causeway. Its gray and ivory stone and brick houses, with their corrugated red roofs, contrast prettily with palms and green hills that rise in the background. Artists declare that Cartagena is one of the "picture" towns of the Americas. Travelers say that it is still the most Spanish of all former Spanish towns in the Western Hemisphere.

Ramparts 40 Feet Thick

Tierra Bomba Island, lying parallel to the mainland, at present makes entrance into Cartagena a difficult navigator's trick. Of the two entrances, the Boca Grande (Large Mouth) is nearest the city; but it is too shallow for shipping to pass through, so the lower entrance or Boca Chica (Small Mouth) which lies eight miles distant, is used.

Walls in some places 40 feet thick encircle the old town and recall the days when the city had the strongest defenses on the Spanish Main. Although they are now dismantled, several well-preserved fortresses, which dot the walls, present a stern, military aspect.

Arches, balconies and grills give Cartagena as Moorish an air as any city of southern Spain. Crumbling towers and faded plaster structures attest the city's age. Many of the balconies exhibit fanciful carving in stone and the grills are often of wrought iron in arabesque designs. The doors and windows, which front on the narrow, dark, cobble-stoned streets, are heavily grilled. Most of the older houses are built in square shapes around a patio or courtyard where a grass-grown plot, a well or fountain, plants, a tree or two and usually a gorgeously colored, tropical bird make a delightful spot in this always warm city. The mean annual temperature is 82° F.

Has Its Modern Touches

Burros and automobiles pass through the chief gate of Cartagena, a venerable structure of yellow stone surmounted by a steeple. Electric lights brighten the streets that once echoed to the footsteps of Sir Francis Drake's plundering crew. Tramways roll along under overhanging balconies of lilac or orange plaster. Women in Parisian dresses shop in the tiny stores, buying brilliant shawls, jewels, or luscious tropical fruit. The busiest shops nestle in the colonnades surrounding the Plaza de Los Coches. The marble pulpit of the Jesuit church of Saint John of God is celebrated throughout South America.

At present Cartagena is third among Colombia's ports, following Barranquilla, also a Caribbean seaport, and Buenaventura, on the Pacific. Nevertheless it does a thriving trade, and two-masted schooners, as well as large merchant steamers, line the waterfront. The bulk of the exports which pass through the town consists

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A tablet bears this inscription: "Johann Wolfgang von Goethe was born in this house 28th August, 1749."

The city of Frankfurt itself is divided into old and new sections. The former, made up mainly of narrow streets, centers about the Romerberg, or Market-place, from which Jews were for a long time barred. The fashionable quarter of the city is the West End.

It is financial strength, however, rather than its fame as the birthplace of the author of "Faust," that gives Frankfurt its standing among cities of Europe. Frankfurt has many industries, but since the days of old Mayer Anselm, the first of the Rothschilds who sent out his five sons to corner the money markets of other European countries, Frankfurt has been the home of some of the strongest moneyed institutions in the world.

Its position, too, in a fertile and picturesque plain surrounded by mountains, has been one of the chief factors contributing to its long career of almost uninterrupted well-being. Iron, steel, chemicals, and machinery are its most important manufactures. A large part of its population is also employed in handling trade on the numerous railway lines which converge here.

Note: Students and teachers wishing additional data and natural color photographs of Germany, its storied past and busy present, should consult "Adventurous Voyages to Medieval Towns," *National Geographic Magazine*, March, 1932; "Dinkelsbühl, Romantic Vision from the Past," December, 1931; "Ströbeck, Home of Chess," May, 1931; "Danube, Highway of Races," December, 1929; "Medieval Pageantry in Modern Nördlingen," and "Renascent Germany," December, 1928; "Rothenburg, the City Time Forgot," February, 1926; "Rediscovering the Rhine," July, 1925; "The Wends of the Spreewald," March, 1923; and "The Story of the Ruhr," May, 1922.

© *"Photo-Union," Paul Lamm*

PLAYING CHESS AT STRÖBECK WITH HUMAN PAWNS

One of the unique features of the annual Chess Festival in this German town, where the game originated, is a contest with living pieces. The two men playing the game may be seen standing on chairs. How many chessmen—knights, castles, pawns, bishops, etc.—can you identify? Ströbeck is in the Harz Mountains, north of Weimar, where the centennial of Goethe's death is being commemorated.

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Ober-Gurgl, Tyrol Village Where Man's Highest Flight Ended

WHEN Professor Auguste Piccard and his assistant brought their stratosphere balloon down on the Gurgl Glacier, in the Austrian Tyrol, nearly a year ago, they suddenly raised the near-by village of Ober-Gurgl to world-wide prominence as the terminus of the highest flight—about 52,000 feet—ever made by man.

Since that time the gondola of the balloon has remained on the glacier where the flight ended, and has become a celebrated tourist "sight." Residents of the district recently requested that M. Piccard not order its removal, as rumored, to the Brussels Museum.

Has Winter Eight Months Long

Ober-Gurgl, itself the loftiest town in Austria, is situated among some of the most imposing scenery of the eastern Alps. More than a mile above sea level, Ober-Gurgl has a winter eight months long, and at no time is it entirely free from snow.

Here the traditional Tyrol yodel is seldom heard, for Nature has a sterner aspect in the upper Oetz Valley, and the serious and silent men of the mountains are in direct contrast to the gayer, song-loving Unter Innthal peasants.

Although the balloonists may not have appreciated the technical niceties of the glacier and mountainsides down which they were forced to scramble to the town, the district around Ober-Gurgl is a mountain climbers' paradise. Lovers of vertical sport come to Ober-Gurgl for a post-graduate course, for, although its near-by peaks are not the highest, they are difficult to scale, and call into play all the skill and resourcefulness of experts.

Hoher First, Liebenerspitze, Grosser Ramolkogel and Hinterer Spiegelkogel lift their hoary locks more than two miles above sea level, and afford magnificent views of vast seas of ice formed by the Gurgl, Langtal and Gaisberg Glaciers. In the lateral moraine—debris along the side—of the Gaisberg Glacier the climber can sometimes pick up a garnet as a souvenir of his trip.

Five Miles from Italian Border

Dependent almost entirely upon sportsmen, Ober-Gurgl is a typical mountain resort village. Two small hotels, a few wide-roofed cottages, a telegraph office, and shops comprise the settlement.

Three hours north, by pony cart, lies Zwieselstein, the head of the railway leading to Innsbruck. A scant five miles south of Ober-Gurgl is the top of the Oetzthaler Alps, marking the Italian border. With an altitude of 6,322 feet Ober-Gurgl is almost a mile higher than Augsburg, Germany, the starting place of Professor Piccard's flight.

Note: Tyrol, picturesque roof of Austria, is shown in natural color photographs in "Tyrol, the Happy Mountain Land," *National Geographic Magazine*, March, 1932. See also "Alpine Villagers of Austria," December, 1929.

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of coffee, chicle, ipecac, hides, gold, platinum, balsam and cacao. Negroes in canoes carry on traffic with natives in the many small towns bordering the mainland.

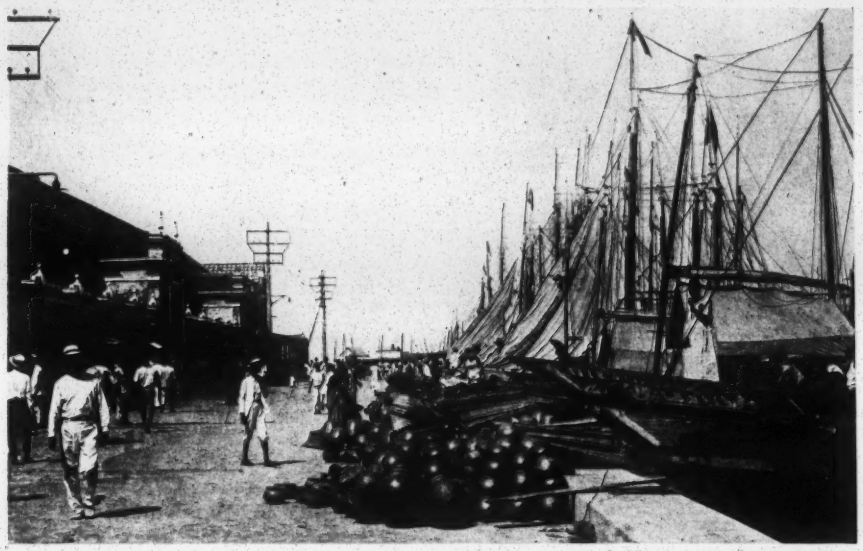
Syrians Peddle in Colombia, Too

The larger part of Cartagena's population is negro, while mestizos, or mixed Indians, and whites, form the comparatively small middle class, and pure whites of Spanish descent form only about a tenth. About half the business in Cartagena is carried on by Syrians. They have agents throughout the town and country and no hamlet in the interior is free from a visit from a Syrian peddler with his pack. The railroad out of Cartagena extends only to Calamar, about 65 miles distant, but the intrepid peddlers pierce the interior afoot or by canoe. Much of the profits of the Syrian merchants are invested in Colombian mines and real estate.

Before the war, Cartagena's imports came largely from Europe because the average Cartagena business man had traveled in Europe, was familiar with European wares, and felt a racial tie with Europeans. During the war, when transatlantic commercial shipping was tied up, he was forced to become acquainted with American products. Since then commerce between the United States and Colombia has grown by leaps and bounds. The proximity of the two countries and the rapid delivery of goods has been responsible for this growth.

Note: See also "From Buenos Aires to Washington by Horse," *National Geographic Magazine*, February, 1929; and "To Bogotá and Back by Air," May, 1928. The near-by Panama Canal and the Dutch islands of Aruba and Curaçao are described briefly in "A Modern Saga of the Seas," December, 1931.

Bulletin No. 2, March 21, 1932



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CARTAGENA IS ONE OF THE "PICTURE" TOWNS OF AMERICA

Cartagena, ancient city of stone walls, forts, and forgotten dungeons, once was a stronghold of the Spanish Main. For nearly four hundred years it has led an existence of ups and downs, but its commercial future now seems to be assured. The Colombian Government has made arrangements with an American firm to enlarge its harbor and shipping facilities, and it has also given the city a modern airport. The Indians of Colombia are skilled in making pottery (such as that piled on the dock), baskets, mats, and hats.

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African Jungle Tribes Have "Ugliest" Beauty

THE open season for beauty contests at southern beaches is a reminder that the geography of beauty is as varied as the geography of food or fashion. Often what may be considered personal blemishes in one part of the world are marks of beauty in another. For example, moles are especially appealing in Egypt. Lumps of flesh resembling huge warts are supposed to beautify the faces of Belgian Congo women.

Where It Is Painful To Be in Style

Many of the "ugliest" types of beauty, according to American and European tastes, are found among African jungle tribes. Particularly ugly are the female faces deformed by rubbing mud into open sores until they swell in permanent ridges. Scars in an oyster shell pattern on the chin, cheeks and forehead are supposed to enhance the appeal of the women of some Central African tribes.

Worst smelling of African beauties are the Ethiopian women who smear their hair with rancid butter. In hot weather they are attended constantly by a regiment of flies. Since the butter is only removed about three times a year, shampoos are negligible factors.

The beauties of the Mangbettu tribe of Central Africa adopt a hairdress that resembles a Grecian urn lying on its side. They bind their hair in a tight coil and the hair that is drawn back is inclosed in a large flat disk. With this skin-tight hairdress, into which long metal pins have been inserted, and their prominent features, they form striking pictures.

The slant-eyed, sub-debutante beauty of Cambodia in Indo-China also affects a distinctive coiffure. Until womanhood is reached, her hair is cut off, with the exception of a single tuft on the top of her head. This tuft is inclosed in a little wooden or metal bowl, around which the head is shaven. When womanhood is reached, the bowl is removed and the rest of the hair is allowed to grow. However, it never reaches any great length and is stiff from repeated shavings in the past.

Cold Cream from Coconuts

Coconut oil is the cold cream of the Samoan Islands. Unlike American women, who disguise the use of cold cream with applications of powder, these South Sea sirens prefer shiny skins. Their brown faces glisten under their curly hair and the wreaths of pawpaw blossoms or cowrie shells which they wear.

The beauties of the island of Malaita, in the Solomon group, are ferocious-looking creatures with huge, fuzzy mops of hair. Through the septums of their noses they plunge long skewers which are supposed to impart extreme beauty to their countenances. The skewers are made of various materials, gilt nails, strings of beads, small tusks, curved shells, tufts of dried grass and long bamboo or bone plugs.

Startling color effects are achieved by the women in other parts of the Solomon Islands. They bleach their kinky hair white with a paste made from coral lime. An arch of lime is applied over each eyebrow. Straight lines of lime

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OBTAINING BACK COPIES OF THE GEOGRAPHIC

Requests continue for back copies of the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE for use in schools. Many educators have urged that earlier copies of THE GEOGRAPHIC be made available for teaching and reference. Illustrations, articles and maps make each issue of THE GEOGRAPHIC of permanent value for classrooms and school libraries.

The Society again has collected, with the cooperation of its membership, a limited number of copies of special value to schools, which will be delivered to schools upon requisition of the superintendent or principal. It is desired that these sets be allotted to schools in rural areas or smaller towns, where library facilities are limited.

The recipient need pay only the cost of handling and carriage, which amounts to 50 cents for each packet of ten copies of THE GEOGRAPHIC.

Because these packages must be assembled from a wide assortment of earlier copies, many of the numbers available being limited, it will not be possible to specify which issues the packets contain. Each of the ten copies will be a different issue. Thus each packet is a panorama of world geography, including also Nature subjects, exploration narratives, and popular science—in other words, a geography library of some 35 authoritative articles with more than 1,000 illustrations, many in color.

You will recognize the value of this gift, arranged as a phase of the educational work of The Society, when it is considered that all back copies available at The Society's headquarters for membership demands are priced at 50 cents each; 75 cents if earlier than 1912. Many out-of-print issues command much higher sums from rare-book dealers.

To minimize bookkeeping, remittance of 50 cents for each packet must accompany the order; and teachers must indicate plainly their school and teaching position because these copies *are made available only for schools.*

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Gunston Hall, Historic Mason Estate, Given to Virginia

GUNSTON HALL, historic Fairfax County Home of George Mason, author of the Bill of Rights, has been given to the Commonwealth of Virginia by its owner. The donor retains a life interest in the mansion and estate, embracing more than 55,000 acres, but they are to be held and maintained by Virginia as a perpetual memorial to the colonial patriot.

The ancestral seat of the Masons is one of several colonial estates in the Commonwealth of Virginia which, while not as well known as Mount Vernon, or Monticello, are of national interest for their history and architecture.

Brick Mansion Not Large

Gunston Hall, the architectural gem that George Mason built and in which he spent the latter part of his life, lies a few miles off the Richmond Highway below Mount Vernon. The brick mansion itself is not large, but it possesses a grace and dignity that set it apart among colonial houses.

Here, looking out over landscaped gardens to the blue reaches of Tidewater Potomac, George Mason drafted the Virginia Bill of Rights, the basis for the first ten amendments to the American Constitution. To-day Gunston Hall's splendid boxwood, among the finest in America, its beautiful gardens, its fine colonial furniture, its perfect river view all conspire to make it a bit of the past in its perfection, standing in the living present.

As one sits where Washington and Lafayette, Jefferson and Madison sat, discussing with its master the problems of war and peace and of nation building, there is no escape from the happy feeling that here we can see Gunston Hall cared for just as George Mason might have cared for it were he alive to-day.

The Piedmont and the Valley, southwest Virginia and the Southside, likewise, have their fine examples of colonial homes endowed with a rich history.

Oak Hill and Oatlands, on the road from Aldie to Leesburg; Montpelier, home of James Madison, just outside of Orange, thoroughly restored; Morven and Mirador, Ash Lawn and Castle Hill are all places where history, architecture, and landscape gardening unite to create enchanting scenes.

Where Patrick Henry Fiddled

In the Southside, Red Hill is gone; fire destroyed this fine old home of Patrick Henry a few years ago; but the old locust tree, under which he would sit and play his fiddle while enjoying the view out over the river to the distant hills of Halifax County, still stands. The brass locks that were given him as a law fee were saved from the catastrophe.

Not so many miles away is Prestwould, the fine old Skipwith estate. Once it was owned by William Byrd III, of Westover. Legend says that upon one occasion Colonel Byrd and Sir Peyton Skipwith were together in Norfolk. It rained for days on end, and these two congenial compatriots insisted on sunshine in their lives, even though it was dismal out of doors. They played cards day after day, and when the skies finally lifted, Prestwould had been won by the turn of the cards. The records tend to confirm the legend, for in his will Sir Peyton speaks of "Prestwould, which I acquired from the Honorable William Byrd and others."

The collection of colonial furniture in this old mansion is regarded as the best and most nearly complete in any house in Virginia.

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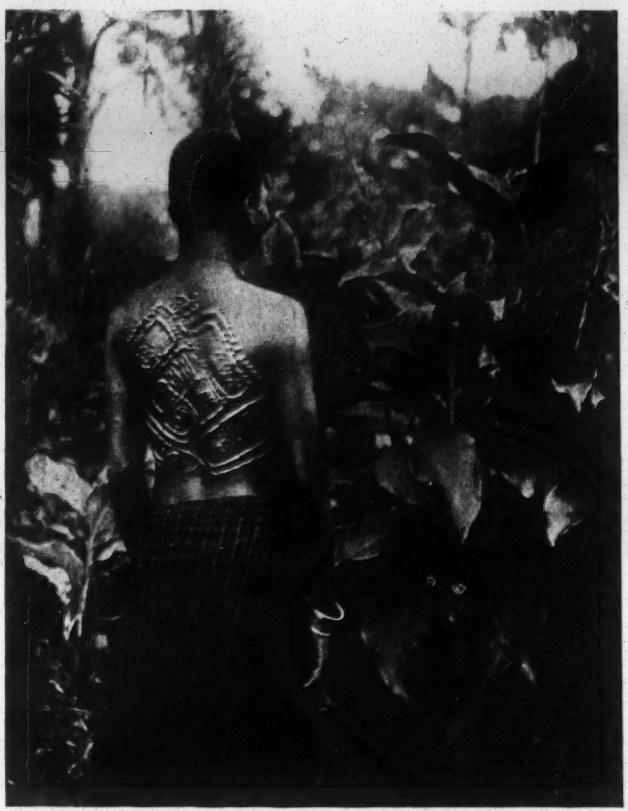
cross each cheek and meet at the chin. The coral paste adornment is useful as well as decorative. It destroys vermin.

Big ears are considered beautiful on the Island of Borneo in the Dutch East Indies. The women insert heavy rings in the lobes of their ears until they gradually yield to the weight and assume the desired character of long loops. These often hang below the shoulder, and the beauties adorn them with heavy rings.

Note: For additional references to primitive beauty and adornment see "Morocco beyond the Grand Atlas," *National Geographic Magazine*, March, 1932; "A Modern Saga of the Seas," December, 1931; "Along the Old Mandarin Road of Indo-China," August, 1931; "Modern Ethiopia," June, 1931; "Fire-Walking Hindus of Singapore," April, 1931; "Four Faces of Suva," September, 1928; "Seeing the World from the Air," March, 1928; "Around the World in the *Islander*," February, 1928; "Vasco da Gama, Pathfinder of the East," November, 1927; "Through the Deserts and Jungles of Africa by Motor," June, 1926; and "Curious Customs of Central African Tribes," October, 1919.

Bulletin No. 4, March 21, 1932



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BEAUTY IS MORE THAN SKIN DEEP IN AFRICA

While the peoples of Central Asia weave their tribal designs into rugs, those of the African jungles work theirs in human flesh. It is difficult to imagine the pain this Manyema girl must have endured while deep cuts were being made in her back, followed by the still more painful process of retarding the healing of the wounds, so as to obtain the highly-raised scars.

Overlooking the confluence of the Dan with the Roanoke, Prestwould, with its beautiful gardens, is a fair companion to such fine Southside estates as Berry Hill and Staunton Hill, from whose thresholds the Bruces of Virginia have gone out into all parts of America.

Humbler Houses That Are World Shrines

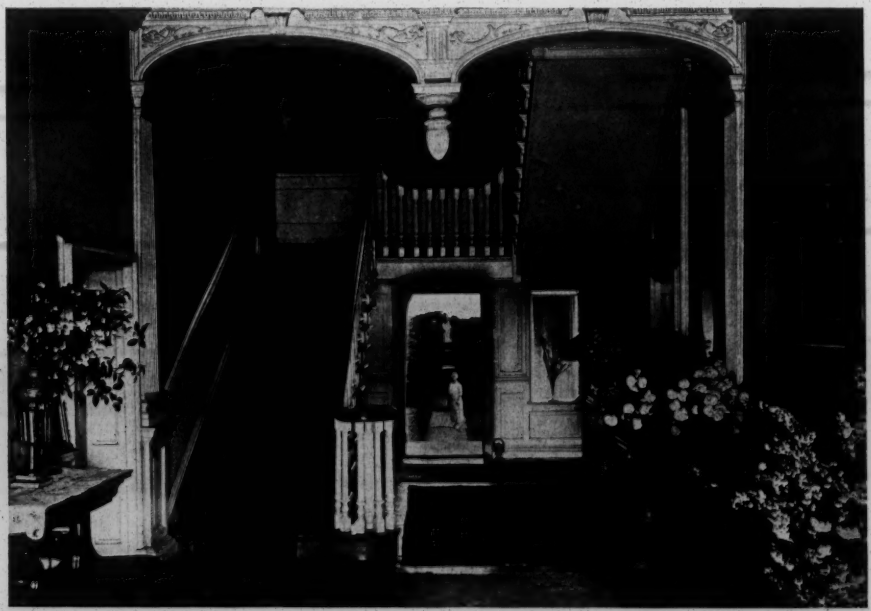
But there are other structures in Virginia, as rude as the old colonial shrines were fine, which are not less sacred than they. Down in Gloucester stands a little cabin where Walter Reed, the liberator of the world from the menace of yellow fever, was born; up in Rockbridge is the old blacksmith shop where Cyrus McCormick, the emancipator of humanity from the toil of the harvest, built the first reaper; and over in Rockingham is the old farmhouse in which was born the father of Abraham Lincoln, the preserver of America.

Charles City County boasts of Berkeley, where William Henry Harrison was born, and Greenway, where John Tyler first saw the light of day.

The original Wakefield, where Washington was born, and Shadwell, where Jefferson was cradled, like the birthplaces of Monroe and Madison, Marshall and Clay, and of Zachary Taylor, are no more. Humble markers designate the spots in the case of Marshall, Jefferson, Madison, and Taylor; Wakefield is restored; but only tradition points to the sites of the hearthstones around which Henry Clay and James Monroe spent their first days.

Note: While the Bicentennial Celebration is in progress, Virginia is much in the public eye. Students preparing historical or geographical papers about the famous places and statesmen of the Old Dominion should consult: "The Travels of George Washington," *National Geographic Magazine*, January, 1932; "Virginia, a Commonwealth that Has Come Back," and "Monticello, One of America's Most Historic Shrines," April, 1929; "Fame's Eternal Camping Ground," November, 1928; and "The Home of the First Farmer of America," May, 1928.

Bulletin No. 5, March 21, 1932



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GRACE AND SIMPLICITY MARK THE INTERIOR OF GUNSTON HALL

Colonial furnishings and decorations have been used in restoring the former home of George Mason, which becomes the property of the Commonwealth of Virginia upon the death of its present owner. The doorway looks out upon the famous boxwood walk, shown also on page two of this issue.

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